

the Righteous Judge

Pg 1

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom; preach the word; be instant in season, and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts they shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch yourself in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry. For I am now ready to be offered-up, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. from this time onward there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the **Righteous Judge**, shall give (award) me on that day (the day of His appearing); and not to me only, but also unto all those loving His appearing." (2 Timothy 4:1-8)

Righteous: from the Greek word *dikaios* which means: correct, righteous, just; especially, just in the eyes of God. Describes what is in conformity to God's own Being (His will, His standard of rightness and Justice).

Judge: from the Greek word *krites* which means: "a judge, a magistrate, one who passes judgement whether for reward, or for punishment"

This title, the **Righteous Judge**, is used by Paul within the context of Paul receiving a Crown of Righteousness from the Lord Jesus at His appearing, His Second Coming! It will be a Judgement of rewards for Paul, and for all those people loving (bgap,kosi - patiently waiting with long-suffering for) the coming of the Lord Jesus! Just as Paul said of himself, so also for we ourselves: we patiently, with long-suffering, fight the good fight for Jesus; we keep seeking to finished our course – our walk and our ministry in Christ Jesus; we keep our faith in Jesus to the very end! And then we shall receive from Jesus, the **Righteous Judge**, our crown of righteousness! And even more as it says:

"For as the Father raises up the dead, and gives life to them; **even so the Son gives life to whom He will.** For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment to the Son; so that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who has sent Him. Truly, truly, I say unto you, he who hears My word, and believes on Him who sent Me, **has everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but has passed from death unto life.** Truly, truly, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they who hear shall live. For as the Father has life in Himself; so has He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in the which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice, And shall come forth; **those who have done good, to the Resurrection of life;** and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgement (*krisis* s). I can of My own self do nothing; as I hear, I judge: and My Judgment is Just; because I seek not My own will, but the will of the Father who has sent Me. (John 5:21-30)

Jesus is a Righteous Judge because His Judgement is **Just** (*dikaia* – righteously fair and correct)! Jesus is a Righteous Judge because as He hears from the Father, so he passes judgement, and not according to His own will, but according to the will of the Father! Consider the Sheep and Goats judgement: Please read Matthew 25:31-46, which concludes with this statement from Jesus:

"Truly I say unto you, Inasmuch as you did not do it (or did do it) unto one of the least of these, you did not do it (or did do it) unto me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal.

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Pg 2

Consider also these righteous judgements of Jesus, as found in the Book of Revelation:

“Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things says He (Jesus) who holds the seven stars in His right hand; To him who overcomes will I give to eat from the Tree of Life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God!” (Revelation 2:1-7; please read)

“And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and is alive; He who overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death!” (Revelation 2:8-11; please read)

“And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things says He who has the sharp sword with two edges; To him who overcomes will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knows but he who receives it.” (Revelation 2:12-17; please read)

“And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like unto a flame of fire, and His feet are like fine brass; And he who overcomes, and keeps my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to pieces: even as I received of My Father. And I will give him the morning star.” (Revelation 2:18-29; please read)

“And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.” (Revelation 3:1-6; please read)

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things says He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens, and no man shuts; and who shuts, and no man opens; He who overcomes will I make a pillar in the Temple of My God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the City of My God, which is New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God: and I will write upon him My New Name.” (Rev. 3:7-13; please read)

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the Creation of God; To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My Throne, even as I also overcame, and sat down with My Father on His Throne. ” (Revelation 3:14-22; please read)

These judgements, when read in context, reveal the debt of knowledge, and understanding, and justice, by which Jesus the Righteous Judge renders judgement. But especially note the Mercy and Love that is expressed by the Righteous Judge in each letter to the seven churches!

JESUS is...

**the Righteous Judge,
who judges us with righteous justice according to the express will of the father!**

**Lord Jesus You judge us with love and mercy!
And You will crown us with crowns of righteousness!
And we look forward to Your Appearing, with patient-love, fighting the good fight,
keeping Your works, and seeking to overcome, in faith, until that Day of Your return!!**